

1. (Currently Amended): A composition comprising a metal powder, a polymer, and an aromatic binder.

wherein said metal powder comprises an elemental metal that is a getter material, said polymer is ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA), polyethylene, or both, and said aromatic binder is benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, pyrene, phenanthrenequinone, or a combination thereof; and

wherein said aromatic binder and said metal powder are mixed to form a feedstock for powder metallurgy forming techniques, said feedstock comprising approximately 29 vol% to approximately 37 vol% of said aromatic binder, at least 45 vol% of said metal powder, and no additional binders in an amount totaling greater than 10 vol%; ~~and~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder and said metal powder do not chemically interact with one another to form property-degrading impurities in articles resulting from application of the powder metallurgy forming techniques to the feedstock.~~

2. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 1, wherein said powder metallurgy forming techniques are selected from the group consisting of injection molding, extrusion, compression molding, powder rolling, blow molding, laser forming, isostatic pressing, spray forming, and combinations thereof.

3. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 1, wherein said metal powder comprises approximately 54.6% to 70% by volume of said feedstock.

27. - 37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended): The composition as recited in Claim 1, further comprising a surfactant.

~~A composition comprising a metal powder, an aromatic binder, and a surfactant;~~

~~wherein said metal powder comprises an elemental metal that is a getter material;~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder, said surfactant, and said metal powder are mixed to form a feedstock for powder metallurgy forming techniques, said feedstock comprising less than approximately 40 vol% of said aromatic binder and no additional binders in an amount totaling greater than 10 vol%; and~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder and said metal powder do not chemically interact with one another to form property-degrading impurities in articles resulting from application of the powder metallurgy forming techniques to the feedstock;~~

39. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 38, wherein said surfactant comprises a nonionic surfactant.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended): ~~A composition comprising an aromatic binder, a surfactant, and a metal powder;~~

~~wherein said metal powder comprises an elemental metal that is a getter material;~~
~~and~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder, said surfactant, and said metal powder are mixed to form a feedstock for powder metallurgy forming techniques, said surfactant comprising up to approximately 3% of the volume of said feedstock. The composition as recited in Claim 38, wherein said surfactant comprises up to 3% of the volume of said feedstock.~~

42. (Previously Presented): The composition as recited in Claim 41, wherein said surfactant comprises approximately 2.3% of the volume of said feedstock.

43. (Currently Amended): The composition as recited in Claim 1, further comprising a lubricant.

~~A composition comprising a metal powder, an aromatic binder, and a lubricant;~~

~~wherein said metal powder comprises an elemental metal that is a getter material;~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder, said lubricant, and said metal powder are mixed to form a feedstock for powder metallurgy forming techniques, said feedstock comprising less than approximately 40 vol% of said aromatic binder and no additional binders in an amount totaling greater than 10 vol%; and~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder and said metal powder do not chemically interact with one another to form property degrading impurities in articles resulting from application of the powder metallurgy forming techniques to the feedstock.~~

44. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 43, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of organic fatty acids, metallic salts, solid waxes and combinations thereof.

45. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 44, wherein said organic fatty acid is selected from the group comprising stearic acid, branched versions of stearic acid, substituted versions of stearic acid, and combinations thereof.

46. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 44, wherein said metallic salts are selected from the group consisting of sodium stearate, calcium stearate, and combinations thereof.

47. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 44, wherein said solid waxes are selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline waxes, paraffin waxes, carnuba wax, and combinations thereof.
48. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 43, wherein said lubricant comprises up to approximately 3% of the volume of said feedstock.
49. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 43, wherein said lubricant comprises approximately 1.5% of the volume of said feedstock.
50. (Currently Amended): The composition as recited in Claim 1, further comprising at least one additional metal powder.

~~A composition comprising a first metal powder, an aromatic binder, and at least one additional metal powder,~~

~~wherein said first metal powder comprises an elemental metal that is a getter material;~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder, said first metal powder, and said at least one additional metal powder are mixed to form a feedstock for powder metallurgy forming techniques, said feedstock comprising less than approximately 40 vol% of said aromatic binder and no additional binders in an amount totaling greater than 10 vol%; and~~

~~wherein said aromatic binder and said first metal powder do not chemically interact with one another to form property degrading impurities in articles resulting from application of the powder metallurgy forming techniques to the feedstock.~~

51. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 50, wherein said additional metal powder comprises a sintering aid.

52. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 51, wherein said sintering aid comprises silver.

53. (Original): The composition as recited in Claim 50, wherein said additional metal powder comprises an alloying powder.

54 -- 156. (Canceled)